**FORM SF 424**

**Question 15**

**Narrative**

Hocking County has seen unprecedented growth in tourism in the last several years. The Hocking Hills Tourism Association estimates up to 5 million visitors a year. The Hocking County Bed Tax Administrator currently lists over 500 cabin businesses with over 1600 cabins. As an example of tourism growth, the year 2016 saw bed tax revenue of approximately $1 million. For year 2022, that number had grown to $2.3 million, with an anticipated revenue for year 2023 of $2.7 million.

This has resulted in a major impact on residential, non-transient housing. It has created a disparity in the availability of affordable single-family, full-time residential housing versus those being built or purchased for transitional/part-time housing as used for Air BnB’s and weekend rentals.

A zoning ordinance in place would help us better plan not only where those different uses are permitted, but also allow for more full-time residential structures as needed by young families starting out, all the through to available housing for those residents in retirement.